

REMARKS

Claims 51-53, 55-78, 80 and 85-97 are pending in this application. Claims 1-50, 54, and 79 were previously canceled. 37 CFR 41.33(b) provides the ability to “cancel claims, where such cancellation does not affect the scope of any other pending claim in the proceeding ...”

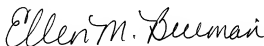
Accordingly, Applicants wish to amend the present Application to cancel the means-plus-function claims, namely claims 81-84. **Since these claims do not affect the scope of the remaining claims presented for appeal**, as required under Rule 41.33(b), Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter this Amendment to cancel these claims.

In the event the Examiner has any questions, Applicants respectfully request a telephone interview to discuss the Examiner’s issues and to expeditiously resolve them. Applicants’ representative can be contacted at (206) 381-3300.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-1050. Again, Applicants’ representative thanks the Examiner for her prompt and courteous attention.

Respectfully submitted,

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AFDS-1-2401-AM1-Appeal